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July 8, 2003

Jody Stiefel, Hearing Officer
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Bay State Gas Company, D.T.E. 02-75

Dear Hearing Officer Stiefel:

I am writing on behalf of Bay State Gas Company ("Bay State") to request that the deadline for submission of Bay State's Initial Brief be extended to July 11, 2003. This would require the extension of the deadline for submission of intervenor Reply Briefs to July 18, 2003, and Bay State's Reply Brief to July 25, 2003. I am authorized to indicate that neither the Attorney General nor the Division of Energy Resources opposes this request.

I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John A. DeTore", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

John A. DeTore

Cc: Mary L. Cottrell
Wilner Borgella, Esq.
Carol Wasserman, Esq.